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¶ Certaine Orders devised and set downe by the Queenes most excellent
Maiestie, with the advise of her most honourable priuie Counsell, for mitiga-
tion of the strictnesse of certaine poyntes in statutes standing in force, tou-
ching the making of wollen Cloth within the Counties of Suffolke, Norfolke,
and Essex, graunted by her Maiestie the xij. of March, in the xxxii.
yeere of her Highnesse raigne.



1. Item, forasmuch as Clothes commonly called short Clothes, made in the Counties of Suffolke & Essex, are for the most part carried into the parts beyond the Seas, and there vterred and solde, and but very fewe therof within this Realme: Her Maiesties will and pleasure therefore is, that the same shalbe allowed to passe, as good and marchantable clothes.

2. Item, wheras by the Statutes now being in force, the said clothes called short clothes being well thicke, ought to containe in length (being through wet) betweene xxii. and xxv. yards, yarde and ynche of the rule, and being well scoured & fully dried, ought to weigh liiii. pounde the cloth at the least: Forasmuch as the said Clothes by reason of rowing, dressing and shearing, doe loose of their weight limittid by the said

Statute: Therefore her Maiesties pleasure is, that the saide Clothiers shalbe tollerated, for the weight of fourre pounds in every such Cloth, well wrought and shorne, and that every of those Clothes being well rowed, shorne, dressed, cleane scoured, drye and readie to sale, which shal weigh threescore pounds the cloth at the least, shalbe allowed to be good and sufficient. And that in like manner for the long Clothes made in those Counties, allowance shalbe made of five poundes in euerie long Cloth, being wrought, shorne, and dressed accordingly.

3. Item, that none of the saide short Clothes shalbe stretched or strained aboue two yards in length at the most: And that none of them being drye, & readie to sale, shal conteine any more or longer measure then xxvii. yards, yarde and ynche of the rule at the most.

4. Item, that the colours of all those Clothes, and all other Clothes whatsoeuer within the saide Counties, being died in wool, Parne, or cloth mingled or binningled, shalbe good, sure, and true in all respects.

5. Item, her Maiesties will and pleasure is, that the said short clothes weighing threescore pounds the cloth at the least, and not exceeding in length xxvii. yarde at the most, and being cleane scoured, fully wrought, dried and well dressed, as is aforesaid: And the saide long clothes being of such weight at the least, as is before allowed, not exceeding the length of xxxi. yarde, yarde and ynche of the rule, and not being in breadth aboue that which the Lawes and Statutes doe allowe, and being wel dressed, as is aforesaid: And also all binwrought short Clothes not exceeding xxvii. yarde in length as aforesaid, hauing their full weight of threescore and fourre poundes, shalbe allowed and permitted to passe without tryall by water, by any searcher or searchers.

6. Item, that it shalbe lawfull for all Searchers to make search of all the saide Clothes, wheresoever the same may be found, for the colours, weight, and length thereof, according to these orders.

7. Item, that the list of any short Cloth shall not be in breadth aboue one naile at the most, and shall not weigh by common iudgement aboue five poundes at the vittermost, and no list of the long Cloth shalbe in weight aboue sixe pounds.

8. And for the auoyding of great deceites commonly practised by badde Clothiers, in carrying of their false and insuffisiently made Clothes to Clothworkers houses and other priuate places in and neere about the Citie of London, and there vterring and selling the same, not bringing them to the open and common market of Blackwell Hall: Her Maiestie straightly chargeth and commaundeth, that all Clothiers of the saide Counties, shall hereafter bring to the common market of Blackwell Hall aforesaid, all such Clothes, as they or any of them shall bring, or cause to be brought to the said Citie, or to the Suburbes or places neere thereunto, and there shall vter and shewe the same, whether they were solde before or not. And that no Clothier, or anie other person within or neere the saide Citie, shall keepe or suffer anie priuate Markettes or sales of any such Clothes to be vsed or suffered in their or anie of their houses, shoppes or warehouses. And that no Clothier shall hereafter take or enioye any benefite of these orders, and tollerations for any their Clothes vterred or brought in, or to the saide Citie of London, or the Suburbes or places neere vnto the same: saving those onely which shall bring the same their Clothes to the sayde common market of Blackwell Hall, and for their Clothes made, and wrought according to these Articles. And that all Searchers shall haue power and authoritie, to make searche for all defectiue and insuffisient Clothes in all other priuate houses, shoppes, and places within the sayde Citie of London, and the Suburbes thereof, according to the Statutes in those cases provided.

9. And to the end the sayde Clothiers shall not pretende any ignorance, or lacke of knowledge of her Highnesse pleasure in this behalfe: Her Maiestie willeth and commaundeth, that the Maior of London before the twentieth day of this moneth of March 1589. shall cause the same to bee openly published, and declared in the common market of Blackwell Hall aforesaid.

10. And for as much as there is great fraude and inconuenience in the overstraining of Clothes: and for that, that in those partes there are two sorts of clothes made, the one called a long cloth, which

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is to conteine in length betweene xviii. and thirtie yarde, yarde and ynche of the rule: And the other called a short cloth, which is to conteine in length betweene three and twentie and five and twentie yarde of like measure: Her Maiestie chargeth and commandeth, that in the said Countie, all long Tentors shalbe cut to xxii. yards and a foote, yarde and ynch of the rule: And all short Tentors and Raches to xviii. yards and a foote, yarde and ynch of the rule, and that one Tentor shal not bee permitted to stand neare to another by two yarde at the least: And that all Tentors which are not agreeable to the lengths aforesaide, shalbe cut and reformed before the feast of Easter, nowe next comming: And that no short cloth shalbe tentored vpon any long Tentor, vpon such paynes as the Lawe doeth appoynt.

11 And finally, her Maiestie willeth and commandeth, that no person which shal infringe and breake these orders or any of them, sauing for the matter of the weight, shal in any wise enioy or claime any benefite thereby, but shalbe subiect to all the penalties and forfeitures limited and appointed in and by the said Statutes: And that al Searchers, informers, and all other persons, to whom it shall or may appertaine, shall and may thereupon haue and vse like remedie, benefite, and aduantage against euery one so offending, as though these orders had never bene made.

12 And concerning the Reformation of the weight aboue mentioned, considering the penaltie for want of weight, for every pounde not exceeding fourre poundes, is two shillings, and for every pound being aboue fourre poundes, is five shillings by the Statute: It is ordered, that the Statute shall be executed vpon all Clothes made contrary to the forme of these Articles, as is aforesaide: The aforesaide orders to continue onely during her Maiesties pleasure.

God saue the Queene.

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Queenes most excellent Maiestie.

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